Numb. 240

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Ad Populum Phaleras. —— Perſ.

From *Thurſday October* 19. to *Saturday October* 21. 1710.

From my own Apartment, October 20.

I DO not remember that in any of my Lucubrations I have touched upon that uſeful Science of Phyſick, notwithſtanding I have declared my ſelf more than once a Profeſſor of it. I have indeed joined the Study of Aſtrology with it, becauſe I never knew a Phyſician recommend himſelf to the Publick who had not a Siſter Art to embelliſh his Knowledge in Medicine. It has been commonly obſerved in Compliment to the Ingenious of our Profeſſion, that *Apollo* was God of Verſe as well as Phyſick; and in all Ages the moſt celebrated Practitioners of our Country were the particular Favourites of the Muſes. Poetry to Phyſick is indeed like the Gilding to a Pill; it makes the Art ſhine, and covers the Severity of the Doctor with the Agreeableneſs of the Companion.

The very Foundation of Poetry is good Senſe, if we may allow *Horace* to be a Judge of the Art:

Scribendi recte ſapere eſt, & Principium, & Fons.

And if ſo, we have Reaſon to believe, that the ſame Man who writes well can preſcribe well, if he has applied himſelf to the Study of both. Beſides, when we ſee a Man making Profeſſion of two different Sciences, it is natural for us to believe he is no Pretender in that which we are not Judges of, when we find him skilful in that which we underſtand.

Ordinary Quacks and Charlatans are thoroughly ſenſible how neceſſary it is to ſupport themſelves by theſe Collateral Aſſiſtances, and therefore always lay their Claim to ſome Supernumerary Accompliſhments which are wholly Foreign to their Profeſſion.

About Twenty Years ago it was impoſſible to walk the Streets, without having an Advertiſement thruſt into your Hand of a Doctor *who was arrived at the Knowledge of the Green and Red Dragon, and had diſcovered the Female Fern Seed.* No Body ever knew what this meant; but the Green and Red Dragon ſo amuſed the People, that the Doctor lived very comfortably upon them. About the ſame Time there was paſted a very hard Word upon every Corner of the Streets. This, to the beſt of my Remembrance, was

TETRACHYMAGOGON,

Which drew great Shoals of Spectators about it, who read the Bill that it introduced with unſpeakable Curioſity; and when they were ſick, would have no Body but this learned Man for their Phyſician.

I once received an Advertiſement of one *who had ſtudied Thirty Years by Candle-light for the Good of his Countrymen.* He might have ſtudied twice as long by Day-light and never have been taken Notice of; but Lucubrations cannot be over-valued. There are ſome who have gained themſelves great Reputation for Phyſick by their Birth, as *the Seventh Son of a Seventh Son*; and others by not being born at all, as *the Unborn Doctor*; who I hear is lately gone the Way of his Patients, having died worth Five hundred Pounds *per Annum*, though he was not *born* to a Halfpenny.

My ingenious Friend Dr. *Saffold* ſucceeded my old Contemporary Dr. *Lilly* in the Studies both of Phyſick and Aſtrology, to which he added that of Poetry, as was to be ſeen both upon the Sign where he lived, and in the Bills which he diſtributed. He was ſucceeded by Dr. *Caſe*, who eraſed the Verſes of his Predeceſſor out of the Sign Poſt, and ſubſtituted in their Stead Two of his own, which were as follow:

Within this Place
Lives Doctor Caſe.

He is ſaid to have got more by this Diſtich than Mr. *Dryden* did by all his Works. There would be no End of enumerating the ſeveral imaginary Perfections and unaccountable Artifices by which this Tribe of Men enſnare the Minds of the Vulgar, and gain Crowds of Admirers. I have ſeen the whole Front of a Mountebank's Stage, from one End to the other, faced with Patents, Certificates, Medals, and Great Seals, by which the ſeveral Princes of Europe have teſtified their particular Reſpect

Reſpect and Eſteem for the Doctor. Every Great Man with a ſounding Title has been his Patient. I believe I have ſeen Twenty Mountebanks that have given Phyſick to the Czar of *Muſcovy*: The Great Duke of *Tuſcany* eſcapes no better. The Elector of *Brandenburgh* was likewiſe a very good Patient.

This great Condeſcenſion of the Doctor draws upon him much good Will from his Audience, and it is Ten to One, but if any of them be troubled with an aching Tooth, his Ambition will prompt him to get it drawn by a Perſon who has had ſo many Princes, Kings, and Emperors, under his Hands.

I muſt not leave this Subject without obſerving, that as Phyſicians are apt to deal in Poetry, Apothecaries endeavour to recommend themſelves by Oratory, and are therefore without Controverſy the moſt eloquent Perſons in the whole *Britiſh* Nation. I would not willingly diſcourage any of the Arts, eſpecially that of which I am an humble Profeſſor; but I muſt confeſs, for the good of my native Country, I could wiſh there might be a Suſpenſion of Phyſick for ſome Years, that our Kingdom, which has been ſo much exhauſted by the Wars, might have leave to recruit it ſelf.

As for my ſelf, the only Phyſick which has brought me ſafe to almoſt the Age of Man, and which I preſcribe to all my Friends, is Abſtinence. This is certainly the beſt Phyſick for Prevention, and very often the moſt effectual againſt a preſent Diſtemper. In ſhort my *Recipe* is, *Take Nothing*.

Were the Body Politick to be phyſicked like particular Perſons, I ſhould venture to preſcribe to it after the ſame Manner. I remember when our whole Iſland was ſhaken with an Earthquake ſome Years ago, there was an impudent Mountebank who ſold Pills, which (as he told the Country People) were very good againſt an Earthquake. It may, perhaps, be thought as abſurd to preſcribe a Diet for the allaying popular Commotions and national Ferments: But I am verily perſuaded, that if in ſuch Caſe a whole People were to enter into a Courſe of Abſtinence, and eat nothing but Water-Gruel for a Fortnight, it would abate the Rage and Animoſity of Parties, and not a little contribute to the Cure of a diſtracted Nation. Such a Faſt would have a natural Tendency to the procuring of thoſe Ends for which a Faſt is uſually proclaimed. If any Man has a Mind to enter on ſuch a voluntary Abſtinence, it might not be improper to give him the Caution of *Pythagoras* in particular.

Abſtine a Fabis.
'Abſtain from Beans.

That is, ſay the Interpreters, meddle not with Elections, Beans having been made uſe of by the Voters among the *Athenians* in the Choice of Magiſtrates.

Advertiſements.

AT the GREAT WHEAT-SHEAF painted upon a Copper Plate, next the Bell-Savage-Inn on Ludgate-hill, are ſold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades: Likewiſe plain and flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Couch Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Perſon ſhall give for them, and the abovemention'd Goods as cheap as for Specie.

THis is to give Notice, That there is an extraordinary Remedy for the Stone and Strangury, which lately cured a Gentleman that had for 3 Days a total Suppreſſion of Urine, who in half an Hour after he had taken it made above a Gallon of Water. It likewiſe brought away 13 Stones from one, and Nine from another, (who both live near Temple-Bar). To be had only of Mr. Rogers at the Sun in Fleet-ſtreet, and of Mr. Aylmer at the 3 Pigeons in Cornhil, Bookſellers, at 5 s. the Paper, with printed Directions.

MOrning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callico's (being the Goods of Perſons that failed) which were to be diſpoſed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be ſold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf no one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs; with a freſh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being ſet on each Gown.

RObert Peters's Sale of a 1000 l. for half a Crown, that was advertiſed to be drawn in the Great Room in York-Buildings the 23d Inſtant, is obliged to be deferred till after the Lord Mayor's Day; being to be drawn at Sadlers Hall. Tickets to be had at Mr. Marret's the Golden-Ball in Devonſhire-ſtreet without Biſhopſgate-ſtreet; Mr. Meaſure's at the Dial near Serjeants-Inn, Fleet-ſtreet; Mr. Lillie's, the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; Mr. Hill, Goldſmith, in Covent-Garden Mr. Andrews, Glover, in Charles-Court the Strand; Rice's Coffee-houſe in the Hay-Market; Child's in St. Paul's Church-yard; George's in Piccadilly, and at the Houſes, Numb. 14 and 28 in Glocester-ſtreet; where the Tickets are rolling up, and the Plate is to be ſeen.

MRs. Symonds's Sale of heavy Plate and other valuable Goods, which are to be ſeen at the Naked Boy and Coat in Henrietta-ſtreet being very near full, all Gentlemen and Ladies are deſired to be ſpeedy in taking out Tickets, which are to be had at the Houſe above-mentioned, at Mr. Wyvil's, Silkman, near the Conduit in Cheap-ſide, Mr. Lillie's at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings, Croſs's Coffee-houſe in Cary-ſtreet, Lincoln's-Inn-fields, and all the other Places mentioned in the Propoſals.

THis is to give Notice, That the Sale of the rich Bed, Hangings, Plate, &c. (which were ſeen at Drapers-Hall) being near full, will be drawn in Michaelmas Term next. All Perſons who are willing to become Adventurers, are deſired to be as ſpeedy as poſſible in taking out Tickets, which (with the Propoſals at large) are to be had at 2 Guinea's each, at Mr. Flemming's, at the Key againſt St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet-ſtreet; Mr. Stocker at the Mitre near York-Buildings; Mr. Farren's, at the blue Periwig in Ruſſel-ſtreet Covent-garden, Goldſmiths; St. James's Coffee-houſe, Alice's Coffee-houſe, Old Palace-yard, Weſtminſter; Sam's in Ludgate-ſtreet; Mr. Lillie's at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; and at Mr. Nath. Carpenter's, Merchant, in Clement's-Lane, Lombard-ſtreet, who will ſtand Security for the fair Performance, and where any Perſon not having ſeen them may have a View of the Goods.

THE Sixpenny Sale of Plate and Goods at Mrs. Love's, a Milliner, next Door to the Crown in Red-Lion-ſtreet, Holborn, is now a Twelvepenny one. The Prizes are, a Silver Grace Cup and Cover, Coffee-pot, Mug, Porrenger, Locker, with a Cypher, and other Things of Value. Tickets may be had at Tawny's Coffee-houſe in Bell-Savage-Yard on Ludgate-Hill; at the Sign of Goldſmith's-Hall in Cary-Lane, near Foſter-Lane in Cheapſide; at Mr. Green's, a Strong-Water Shop, in Palace-Yard, Weſtminſter; and at Mrs. Love's. All Prizes Notice to be given three Days before Drawing.

AT Lindert's Chocolate-houſe in King-ſtreet, Bloomsbury, there is a Sale of Chocolate begun, which is near half full, at 1 s. each Ticket, for Chocolate, rich Chocolate Drops, Snuff, Queen of Hungary Water, and other Things, as they may ſee in the Propoſals at the Place. There are about 8 Blanks to a Prize.

THE Sale of Goods at Mrs. Fardell's, Milliner, the Corner of Silver-ſtreet, Bloomsbury-market, will without fail be drawn the 24th Inſtant, at the Men of Kent near Hand-alley, over-againſt Great Turn-ſtile in Holborn The Goods are rated no higher than they are really worth. Tickets are only to be had at the Men of Kent, and Mrs. Fardell's above-mentioned. To begin at Ten in the Morning preciſely.

A Second Sale of Jewels, Plate, &c. at Mr. Stocton's Houſe at the Bell in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-garden, at 2 s. each Ticket, and 12 Blanks to a Prize, the higheſt Prize 100 l. one at 50 l. two at 30 l. &c. Tickets are delivered at the ſaid Mr. Stocton's; at Mr. Amſon's, a Goldſmith, at the Gold Ring, the Corner of Salisbury-court in Fleet-ſtreet. This is to be drawn in Michaelmas Term, out of Wheels and by Pariſh Boys, (as the Firſt Sale was drawn by the ſame Undertakers, ſo much to the Satisfaction of all Parties concerned). Tickets may be had likewiſe at Mrs. Marriat's, a Milliner, in New-ſtreet, Fetter-lane; at Mr. Marriat's, a Shoemaker, at the White Hart in the Poultry; Mrs. Davis's, a Milliner, in Hungerford-market; at the Vine Tavern in Holborn; and at Mrs. Sheffield's at the Temple Coffee-houſe near St. Dunſtan's Church.

THE Sale of Six Houſes at Ratcliff-Croſs and Dickſhore in Limehouſe, all in good Repair, and Five of them without Ground Rent, and the reſt all new faſhionable Plate, to the Value of 2499 l. is deſigned to be drawn the latter End of November, by Two Pariſh Boys out of Two Wheels, at the Three Tun Tavern in Wood-ſtreet. All Perſons that intend to be Adventurers are deſired ſpeedily to take out Tickets, it being the only Undertaking for that Money that has ever been undertaken. The Gentlemen that are Truſtees for the faithful Performance are, Mr. Thomas Arne at the Two Crowns and Cuſhions in Covent-garden, Mr. Henry Gaynnell at the Three Tun Tavern in Wood-ſtreet, and Mr. Nath. Haws in Wood-ſtreet; where Tickets may be had till the Time of Drawing, at ſeveral eminent Coffee houſes and Taverns about Town, and at the Places mentioned in the Propoſals.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.